



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Robert A. HALLOWITZ et al.

Serial No.: 09/296,534

Examiner: R. ZEMAN

Filed: April 22, 1999

Group Art Unit: 1645

For: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS
FOR DETERMINING A LATENT
VIRAL LOAD

(NE)
#28/E
JMN
9/5/03

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AUG 29 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

August 25, 2003

AMENDMENT FILED WITH A RCE UNDER 37 CFR 1.114

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following amendment is accompanying a Request for Continued Examination. A Notice of Appeal was filed on 25 February 2003 making a response due on 25 April 2003. An extension of time for four months is filed herewith making a response due 25 August 2003.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follow:

1. (Twice Amended) A method of determining the latent viral load in a host infected with HIV comprising,
contacting resting lymphoid mononuclear cells obtained from the host with an effective amount of an agent which activates an HIV virus integrated into the genome of the cells; and
detecting the expression of cell-surface gp120 on intact cells after the cells have been contacted with the agent and counting the intact cells therein, wherein the number of intact cells expressing cell-surface gp120 is a measure of latent viral load.

18. (Twice Amended) A method of determining latent viral load in a host infected with HIV comprising,